

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 3, 9, 12 and 14 (Claim 7 was previously canceled), amend Claims 1-2, 4-5, 6, 8, 10-11, 13 and 15-16, and add Claims 17-20 as follows:

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- 1 1. (Currently amended) In an agricultural combine disposed in an ambient
2 environment, an unloading auger for removing a crop material from a storage bin, the
3 unloading auger comprising:
4 a) —an infeed section coupled to an outlet of ~~the~~ said storage bin for receiving
5 the crop material from ~~the~~ said storage bin; and
6 b) —an outfeed section including a first segment coupled to ~~the~~ said infeed
7 section and a second segment hingedly connected to ~~the~~ said first segment, wherein ~~the~~
8 said first segment and said second segments can be relatively pivoted in a substantially
9 horizontal plane between a storage position and coaxially connected unloading position
10 while maintaining ~~the~~ said infeed section in a substantially vertical orientation; [[.]] and
11 an actuator for rotating at least one of said first segment and said second
12 segment around said hinge.
- 1 2. (Currently amended) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, further comprising
2 a hinge disposed between said first segment and said second segments; segment.
- 1 3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently amended) The unloading auger according to Claim 31, wherein:

a) — said actuator is a hydraulic cylinder, wherein grain is prevented from being accidentally released through an open end of one of said segments when said unloading auger is in ~~said~~ the storage position.

5. (Currently amended) The unloading auger according to Claim 4, wherein

a) — said first and second segments are positioned generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of said combine with ~~the~~ said second segment being positioned generally adjacent to ~~the~~ an outside edge of said first segment when said ~~unloading~~ auger is in ~~said~~ the storage position.

6. (Currently amended) An agricultural combine comprising:

a) — a storage bin;

b) — an unloading auger movable between a storage position and an unloading position for unloading a crop material from ~~the~~ said storage bin, ~~the~~ said auger including:

i. — a horizontal section in communication with ~~the~~ said storage bin, wherein ~~the~~ said horizontal section ~~has~~ includes a first segment and a second segment, wherein said first segment is movable with respect to the said storage bin, wherein said first segment and said second segment are horizontally disposed when said auger is disposed in the storage position and in the unloading position;

ii. — a hinged joint pivotally connecting ~~the~~ said first segment and said second segments, thereby allowing said first segment and said second segments to be

12 relatively pivoted when moving the said auger between the storage position and the
13 unloading positions; and

14 ~~wherein said first and second segments are horizontally disposed both when~~
15 ~~the auger is disposed in the storage and in the unloading positions.~~

16 an actuator for rotating at least one of said first segment and said
17 second segment around said hinge joint.

1 7. (Canceled).

1 8. (Currently amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein said
2 ~~unloading~~ auger is manually relocated between the storage position and the unloading
3 position ~~manually~~.

1 9. (Canceled).

1 10. (Currently amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim 96, wherein:

2 a) ~~said~~ combine includes a body with a rearmost end; and

3 b) ~~no~~ portion of said first segment and said second segment
4 extends beyond said rearmost end when said ~~unloading~~ auger is in ~~said~~ the
5 storage position.

1 11. (Currently amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim 106, ~~further~~
2 ~~comprising~~ wherein

3 a) — said actuator is a hydraulic cylinder that rotates said first segment and
4 said second segment around said hinged joint; and
5 wherein said first hinged joint is lockable when said ~~unloading~~-auger is in
6 the unloading position.

1 12. (Canceled).

1 13. (Currently amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim 96, wherein said
2 first segment and said second segment are generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said
3 combine with ~~the~~ said second segment positioned generally adjacent to ~~the~~ an inside edge
4 of ~~the~~ said first segment when said ~~unloading~~-auger is in the storage position.

1 14. (Canceled).

1 15. (Currently amended) The unloading auger according to Claim ~~as recited in claim~~
2 1, wherein ~~the~~ said second segment defines an auger exit opening for delivering the crop
3 material to the ambient environment.

1 16. (Currently amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim ~~as recited in~~
2 claim 6, wherein ~~the~~ said storage bin defines an upper surface, and wherein ~~the~~ said
3 horizontal section is in communication with ~~the~~ said upper surface.

1 17. (New) In an agricultural combine disposed in an ambient environment, an

2 unloading auger for removing a crop material from a storage bin, the unloading auger
3 comprising:
4 an infeed section coupled to an outlet of said storage bin for receiving the crop
5 material from said storage bin;
6 an outfeed section including a first segment coupled to said infeed section and a
7 second segment hingedly connected to said first segment, wherein said first segment and
8 said second segment can be relatively pivoted in a substantially horizontal plane between
9 a storage position and coaxially connected unloading position while maintaining said
10 infeed section in a substantially vertical orientation; and
11 a safety mechanism for preventing the crop material from spilling out when said
12 auger is in the storage position.

1 18. (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein said safety
2 mechanism prevents said auger from operating in the storage position.

1 19. (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, further comprising an actuator
2 for rotating at least one of said first segment and said second segment around said hinge.

1 20. (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 19, wherein said actuator is a
2 hydraulic cylinder.